

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

**Call to Order:** Chair Edward Buttrey, on February 10, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)  
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Pat Connell (R)  
Sen. Tom Facey (D)  
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)  
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)  
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)  
Sen. Frank Smith (D)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)  
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Prudence Gildroy, Committee Secretary  
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 184, 2/3/2017; SR 8, 2/3/2017

Executive Action: SR 8 Be Adopted

**HEARING ON SB 184**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:07 Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R), SD 19, opened the hearing on SB 184, Revise workers compensation to allow termination of payments due to fraud.

00:02:47 Sen. Fitzpatrick, Sen. Smith and Sen. Vance joined the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:03:25 Larry Jones, Montana Self Insurance Association (MSIA)

00:08:01 Kevin Braun, Montana State Fund

00:08:13 Alan Hulse, Montana Interlocal Insurance Authority

00:08:40 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

00:09:30 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business

00:09:43 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Chamber of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:10:11 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)

00:17:05 Bill Wheeler, Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)

Sen. Vance left the meeting.

00:19:11 Chris Cavasos, AFL-CIO

00:19:42 Norm Grosfield, Attorney at Law

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:26:47 Sen. Facey

00:26:52 Mr. Jones, MSIA

00:29:04 Sen. Facey

00:29:24 Mr. Jones

00:30:07 Chair Brown

00:30:29 Mr. Wheeler, DLI

00:30:38 Sen. Brown

00:31:08 Mr. Wheeler

00:31:57 Sen. Brown

00:32:45 Mr. Smith, MTLA

00:33:32 Sen. Brown

00:34:01 Mr. Smith

00:34:37 Sen. Salomon

00:35:02 Sen. Moore

00:35:30 Sen. Salomon

00:35:37 Mr. Jones

00:37:34 Sen. Salomon

00:38:00 Mr. Jones  
00:38:21 Sen. Facey  
00:38:41 Mr. Smith  
00:39:11 Sen. Facey  
00:39:33 Mr. Jones  
00:40:50 Sen. Facey  
00:41:06 Mr. Jones  
00:42:01 Chairman Buttrey  
00:42:40 Mr. Wheeler  
00:43:58 Sen. Brown  
00:44:13 Sen. Moore

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:44:26 Sen. Moore  
  
00:47:11 Vice Chair Brown assumed the duties of chair. Sen. Vuckovich left the meeting.

**HEARING ON SR 8**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:49:34 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 11, opened the hearing on SR 8, Confirm Governor's appointee for Director, Dept. of Labor and Industry.

**[EXHIBIT](#)(bus30a01)**

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:53:03 Pam Bucy, commissioner, Montana Department of Labor and Industry (DLI)  
00:56:53 Chair Brown  
00:57:00 Emma Piskolich, daughter of Commissioner Bucy  
00:57:18 Quinn Piskolich, son of Commissioner Bucy  
00:57:47 John Cech, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education  
01:05:06 Margaret Morgan, Montana Independent Electrical Contractors and herself  
01:07:16 Al Ekblad, AFL-CIO  
01:08:49 Jean Johnson, Montana Outfitters and Guides Association  
01:11:01 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business  
01:12:27 Steve Wade, Montana Contractors Association  
01:13:35 Aimee Grmoljez, representing herself

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:15:31 Sen. Connell  
01:18:02 Ms. Bucy, DLI  
01:19:06 Chair Brown  
01:19:19 Ms. Bucy

01:19:49 Sen. Facey  
01:20:02 Ms. Bucy  
01:20:12 Sen. Facey  
01:20:54 Chair Brown  
01:21:19 Ms. Bucy  
01:22:08 Chair Brown  
01:22:13 Ms. Bucy  
01:22:25 Sen. Salomon  
01:23:04 Chair Brown

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:23:29 Sen. Buttrey  
  
01:24:50 Sen. Buttrey assumed the role of chair.  
01:25:38 Sen. Connell

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 8**

01:25:54 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SR 8 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Vance and Sen. Vuckovich voted by proxy.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:27 AM

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Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([bus30aad.pdf](#))